

NEWS OF THE THEATERS

THREE PLAYS OF WIDELY DIFFERENT KINDS AT ENGLISH'S.

James T. Powers in "The Messenger Boy" First—"Secret Service" to Be Acted at the Park.

The first entertainment at English's this week will be "The Messenger Boy," a musical comedy imported from England. It will be acted to-morrow and Tuesday nights by James T. Powers, May Robson, Georgia Calne, Joyana Howland, George Honey, Harry Kelly and many others. The play is in two acts and four scenes, representing the Hotel de Luxe and the Thames embankment, at London; a steamship pier at Brindisi, Italy; a street in Cairo, Egypt, and a park in the Paris exposition. The book was written by James T. Tanner and Alfred Murray, the lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank and the music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton. These names are familiar on the programmes of English musical comedies.

The fact of having messenger boys make international journeys is burlesqued. In this instance the boy is used to separate lovers. His employers by mistake give him a document that will ruin them if it is delivered to the person addressed. Their subsequent effort is directed toward preventing the boy arriving at his destination. The boy, impersonated by Mr. Powers, is pertinacious and the complications are comic. The boy's mother, Mrs. Bangs, is included in the activity. She is impersonated by Miss Robson, who is famous for her grotesque caricatures. She has not visited

notably Thomas M. Reynolds. The play's story is of the civil war and its characters are soldiers. The cast will be as follows:

Brig. Gen. Nelson Randolph.....Charles D. Waldron
Gen. General Varney.....Angela Dolores
Edith Varney.....Lizzie Hudson Collier
Willard Varney.....Lillian May
Caroline Mildred.....Angela McCaull
Louis Dumont, known as Captain Thom
Byron Douglas
Henry Arrelsford.....Charles Walters
Benton Arrelsford.....George Farren
Mrs. Kittredge.....Marie Boland



THOMAS M. REYNOLDS.
A Member of the One-Three Grand Opera House Stock Company, in "Secret Service," at the Park.

Martha.....Emelle Melville
Jonas.....Joseph B. Everham
Lieutenant Foray.....Thomas Reynolds
Lieutenant Allison.....William A. Hackett
Sergeant Wilson.....Louis Hall
Lieutenant Ellingham.....Edward White

The Empire—Two Shows.
The Knickerbocker Burlesquers will begin the week at the Empire Theater. The company is eight years old, but it never has visited this city. It gives two burlesques, "An Affair of Honor" and "A Night in Bohemia," and the vaudeville part is contributed by the Musical Simpsens, Joe and Nellie Doner, Fred Pelot, Lewis and Green, Jack Gardner and the Weiss children, boxers not the Eales, will attend the performance in a body on Tuesday night. Harry H. Hedges, whose home is in this city, is the business manager of the company.

The entertainment the latter half of the week will be given by the "Thoroughbreds," who are Josie Flynn, soubrette; Polk and Treck, acrobats; Healey and Parnum, dancers; McCale and Carey, Irish comedians; Mackie and Walker and Gypzene and Roma. Two burlesques will be given.

JORYNA HOWLAND.
The "Original Gibson Girl," Formerly a Resident of Indianapolis.
Joryna Howland, who is a member of the company playing "The Messenger Boy," and who is known as the "original Gibson girl," lived in this city when she was a young girl. She is more noted as a beauty of the American type than as an actress. Among the many artists for whom she posed was Charles Dana Gibson. Miss Howland was Mr. Gibson's first, and, as may be judged from her pictures, about his fairest model. He has had many models since, but it was from her striking face and figure that he took his type of American girl which has made him famous. He was



JORYNA HOWLAND.
In "The Messenger Boy," at English's.

William Faversham, who is in his first season as a "star," will be seen on Thursday night in "A Royal Rival," a revamped by Gerald Du Maurier of the old romantic drama, "Don Caesar de Bazan." He was a similar swashbuckling hero in "Under the Red Robe" and he has impersonated a modern man here in R. C. Carter's brilliant comedy, "Lord and Lady Algy." He was leading man of the Empire Theater stock company for a long term. Among his assistants in "A Royal Rival" are Isabel Irving, not long ago Mr. Drew's leading woman; Sully Edwards, James Kearney, N. L. Jelenko, Joseph Weber, Maggie Holloway Fisher and Claire McDowell.

"The Starbuck's" will be acted on Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday afternoon by a company led by Howell Hansel, one time leading man of the Grand Opera House stock company. The author of the play is Ople Read, and, as might be expected, it describes Southern life. Its main figure is Jasper Starbuck, a moonshiner of the Tennessee mountains. He is impersonated by Mr. Hansel. The climax of the play is his speech of defense when he is arrested by government officers. The scenes are among the mountains and all the characters of the play are typical of that interesting part of the country. Assisting Mr. Hansel are Alice Leigh, Clara Thropp, Pauline Fletcher, William L. Vischer, Thomas L. Coleman and numerous others.

The Grand—Vaudeville.
The Picchiani troupe of acrobats, who recently have come from Italy, will be the principal entertainers at the Grand Opera House this week. Their ground and lofty tumbling is said to be extraordinary. Press Eldridge will give a monologue in blackface. Thomas Dempsey, William Mack and Margaret Burnham will act a farce called "A Man of Chance." Jenny Eddy and her two boy assistants will sing and will be



LOUISA PICCHIANI.
One of the Picchiani Troupe of Acrobats at the Grand.

accompanied by David Fitzgibbon, pianist. Miss Eddy retains her quick change from white to black face. Others on the bill will be Zeima Raymon, who looks well in men's clothing and sings cleverly, the three Westons, musicians, and Prevost and Prevost, comedians.

The Park—Two Plays.
The first play of the week at the Park Theater will be "The Minister's Son," a melodrama of New England. A "city man" ruins one of the sons and steals the daughter of a village preacher and at the end is punished for his wickedness.

"Secret Service," which will be presented during the latter half of the week, has a far different story and is produced more elaborately. William Gillette wrote and acted in this play. In this instance it will be presented by the Pike stock company, of Cincinnati, which was closely connected with the Grand Opera House stock company of this city. In the cast of the play will be seen several men familiar to the patrons of the home stock company,

wood's "Lazarus." Mr. Skinner will use the play next season. Mr. Boucault is playing Paolo in "Francesca da Rimini."

Marie Cahill is to be a star in a musical comedy next season. Her most recent appearance here was in "Three Little Lambs." She had been successful in "The Lady Slavey," "The Star and Garter" and "The Runaway Girl." In the East, she has won recognition as the best of the musical comedienne, not including Marguerita Sylva.

One of Annie Russell's plays next season will be "Mice and Men," by Madeline Lucette Ryley. Forbes Robertson and Gertrude Elliott are acting in it in London.

Elita Proctor Otis is to make a spring tour in "East Lynne," appearing as Lady Isabel and Madame Vine.

BERNHARDT IN A QUARREL.
She and the Poet, Mendes, Have an Affray Peculiarly French.

PARIS, March 15.—The Parisians are keenly interested in the developments of a quarrel between Sarah Bernhardt and Catulle Mendes, the author and poet, about the production of the latter's drama, "Sainte Therese," which had been promised to the Comedie Francaise. Mme. Bernhardt heard of the drama, begged to be allowed to produce it, and Mendes withdrew it from the Comedie Francaise and gave it to her, under stipulations assuring a good run. M. Mendes subsequently took it back, when in full rehearsal, on the ground that Mme. Bernhardt had made arrangements to go to London, which precluded a satisfactory run for "Sainte Therese."

The story has been told in a series of remarkable letters exchanged between Mme. Bernhardt and M. Mendes, which the latter published. The letters are most amusing with their mutual, gushing compliments and poetical forms of address, which, however, deteriorated into the chilliest expressions as the quarrel became embittered. Mme. Bernhardt first addressed M. Mendes as "My dear beloved poet," asking to be allowed to produce "Sainte Therese," and M. Mendes responded to her "despoiled sovereign," offering the piece for the coming season. Mme. Bernhardt then replied to her "darling friend," promising to produce it March 1. M. Mendes thereupon telegraphed as reply: "Dear Therese: The play was making conflicting arrangements, and I telegraphed for explanations. This time Mme. Bernhardt merely addressed him as "Friend," and explained that her arrangements did not affect the production of the piece. M. Mendes was not satisfied, but was induced to leave the play with Mme. Bernhardt. The rehearsals were begun, but M. Mendes says he found Mme. Bernhardt had let her theater to an Italian company for a period which rendered the promised run impossible. He realized that all was not plain sailing for "Sainte Therese," and set back his manuscript, which he wrote, he would arrange for a drawer swathed with red roses, symbol of his admiration for Sarah Bernhardt, and with violets, emblems of her fickleness.

The last communication of M. Mendes was written in the third person and was addressed to "Madame Sarah Bernhardt." She replied to the publication of these letters by explaining that M. Mendes was wrong about the arrangements which he thought would interfere with his play. She intended to give it a run of twenty nights, and could not arrange for a longer run, because of the risk of losing her London season, which brings a larger sum of money, and complained that M. Mendes resorted to a trick to get back the manuscript, which, he said, was needed for a few corrections. Mme. Bernhardt concluded her letter as follows: "In a terrible fit of despair and tears I drowned my illusions, hopes, admiration and my friendship for that man. I came out of this crisis a physical wreck, with my brain in a whirl, but my will safe and sound. As long as I live I will never see Catulle Mendes again."

M. Mendes, on reading this, telegraphed as follows to Mme. Bernhardt: "Is it not silly for us to quarrel, when, in reality, we love one another? The authorship then offered to give "Sainte Therese" to Mme. Bernhardt, if she would only promise to write while it was drawing him. Mme. Bernhardt did not even reply to this communication, whereupon M. Mendes wrote to the Temps replying to all the

the Paris and Buffalo expositions. Mrs. Albert Lieber, violinist, and Miss Ida Belle Sweenie, soprano, will assist in the programme, which will be as follows:

"Fantasie Impromptu".....Chopin
"The Holy City".....Adams
"Dance Macabre".....St. Saens
"Dream of Love".....Liszt
"Les Gavottes d'Elza".....Ascher
Valze Op. 34, No. 1.....Moszkowski
"Good-bye".....Tosti
"Serenade".....Schubert
"Second Rhapsody".....Liszt
Mr. Jones.

The programme for the spring musical festival at Tomlinson Hall March 31 and April 1 has not been announced. The Grieg-Bjornson oratorio, "Olaf Trygvason," will be given by the Chicago Orchestra and the chorus, under the baton of Mr. Thompson. The first experience of a three days' calm at sea furnishes one of the most instructive changes for reflection on human nature and human history he ever gets in life. Who ever heard of a mutiny during a calm at sea? The accumulating forces are used up as just as generated in reefing sails and in double or quadruple shifts at the wheel. As well expect to see the hens hatching out their eggs when whirling round like

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To any one, therefore, with half an ounce of brains in his skull his first experience of a three days' calm at sea furnishes one of the most instructive changes for reflection on human nature and human history he ever gets in life. Who ever heard of a mutiny during a calm at sea? The accumulating forces are used up as just as generated in reefing sails and in double or quadruple shifts at the wheel. As well expect to see the hens hatching out their eggs when whirling round like

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